

NO_x controls to be required in the short term.

Dated: August 6, 1998.

Chris C. Oynes,

Regional Director, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region.

[FR Doc. 98-21582 Filed 8-11-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MR-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Comprehensive Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails

AGENCY: National Park Service,
Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Draft
Environmental Impact Statement for
Oregon, California, Mormon Pioneer,
and Pony Express National Historic
Trails.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102(2) (c)
of the National Environmental Policy
Act of 1969, the National Park Service
(NPS) announces the availability of a
draft environmental impact statement
and comprehensive management plan
(EIS/CMP) for the Oregon, California,
Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express
National Historic Trails.

DATES: The DEIS/CMP will remain
available for public review through
October 19, 1998. Public meetings held
concerning the DEIS/CMP will be
announced at a later date.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the draft EIS
shall be submitted to the
Superintendent, Long Distance Trails
Office, 324 S. State St., Suite 250, Salt
Lake City, UT 84145.

Copies of the draft EIS will be
available for review at the public
libraries in the counties crossed by the
trails. A list with the specific addresses
will be made available to the mailing
list associated with this project. For
additional information contact:
Superintendent, Long Distance Trails
Office, 324 S. State St., Suite 250, Salt
Lake City, Utah 84145 (801) 539-4095.
Planning and Environmental Quality,
Intermountain Support Office—
Denver, National Park Service, 12795
W. Alameda Parkway, Lakewood, CO
80228, (303) 969-2851 [or (303) 969-
2832].

Office of Public Affairs, National Park
Service, Department of the Interior,
18th and C. Streets NW, Washington,
DC 20240, (202) 208-6843.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Draft
Environmental Impact Statement for the

Comprehensive Management Plan
presents and proposal and an alternative
for guiding future management of the
four national historic trails. The plan
serves as a coordinating document that
provides broad-based policies,
guidelines, and standards for
administering the four trails in such a
manner, as to ensure the protection of
trail resources, their interpretation and
continued use. Both alternatives aim to
balance resource preservation and use.
Alternative 1 (current conditions)
reflects the wide variability in the
administration and management,
resource protection strategies, and
interpretation, visitor experience, and
use that exists today. Alternative 2 (the
proposal) focuses on enhancing resource
protection and visitor use. It calls for an
improved visitor experience through
integrated development and
programming and a comprehensive
strategy for resource protection,
including an ambitious program to
inventory and monitor resources that
would bring together, in one location,
information currently dispersed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Superintendent Long Distance Trails
Office at the above address and phone
number.

Dated: August 4, 1998.

Michael D. Snyder,

*Acting Regional Director, Intermountain
Region, National Park Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-21464 Filed 8-11-98; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide From Greece and Japan

Dismissal of Request for Institution of a Section 751(b) Review Investigation

AGENCY: United States International
Trade Commission (Commission).

ACTION: Dismissal of a request to
institute a section 751(b) investigation
concerning the Commission's
affirmative determinations in
investigations Nos. 731-TA-406 and
408 (Final): Electrolytic Manganese
Dioxide from Greece and Japan.¹

SUMMARY: The Commission determines,
pursuant to section 751(b) of the Tariff

Act of 1930 (the Act)² and Commission
rule 207.45,³ that the subject request
does not show changed circumstances
sufficient to warrant institution of an
investigation to review the
Commission's affirmative
determinations in investigations Nos.
731-TA-406 and 408 (Final):
Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from
Greece and Japan. EMD is provided for
in subheading 2820.10.00 of the
Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the
United States.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Fred
Fischer (202-205-3179) or Vera Libeau
(202-205-3176), Office of
Investigations, U.S. International Trade
Commission, 500 E Street SW,
Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-
impaired persons can obtain
information on this matter by contacting
the Commission's TDD terminal on 202-
205-1810. Persons with mobility
impairments who will need special
assistance in gaining access to the
Commission should contact the Office
of the Secretary at 202-205-2000.
General information concerning the
Commission may also be obtained by
accessing its internet server at <http://www.usitc.gov>.

Background Information

On May 26, 1998, the Commission
received a request to review its
affirmative determination, as it applied
to imports from Greece (the request), in
light of changed circumstances,
pursuant to section 751(b) of the Act.⁴
The request was filed by counsel on
behalf of Eveready Battery Company
(Eveready), St. Louis, MO. Eveready is
one of three U.S. producers of EMD. The
company is a captive producer of EMD
and a purchaser of EMD from other U.S.
and foreign manufacturers. EMD is a
major ingredient in the manufacture of
dry cell batteries used in portable
electronic devices.

Pursuant to section 207.45(b) of the
Commission's Rules of Practice and
Procedure,⁵ the Commission published
a notice in the **Federal Register** on June
3, 1998,⁶ requesting comments as to
whether the alleged changed
circumstances warranted the institution
of review investigations. The
Commission received comments in
support of the request from Eveready
(the requester) and Tosoh Hellas, A.I.C.,
a Greek producers of EMD.⁷ Comments

² 19 U.S.C. § 1675(b).

³ 19 CFR 207.45.

⁴ 19 U.S.C. § 1675(b).

⁵ 19 CFR 207.45(b).

⁶ 63 FR 30254.

⁷ Both Eveready and Tosoh Hellas, while
supporting the initiation of a section 751(b) review
investigation with respect to Greece, oppose the

¹ The request concerned only imports from
Greece. However, as the alleged changed
circumstances predominantly related to the
domestic industry, the Commission also solicited
comments on the possibility to self-initiating a
review of the outstanding order on imports from
Japan.

in opposition to the request were received from Chemetals, Inc. and Kerr-McGee Chemical (Kerr-McGee), LLC, U.S. producers of EMD.

Analysis:

In considering whether to institute a review investigation under section 751(b), the Commission will not institute such an investigation unless it is persuaded there is sufficient information demonstrating:

(1) That there are significant changed circumstances from those in existence at the time of the original investigations;

(2) That those changed circumstances are not the natural and direct result of the imposition of the antidumping and/or countervailing duty orders, and;

(3) That the changed circumstances, allegedly indicating that revocation of the order would not be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry, warrant a full investigation.⁸

After consideration of the request for review and the response to the notice inviting comments, the Commission has determined, pursuant to section 751(b) of the Act and Commission rule 207.45, that the information of record, including the request and the comments received in response to the notice, does not show changed circumstances sufficient to warrant institution of investigations to review the Commission's affirmative determinations in investigations Nos. 731-TA-406 and 408 (Final): Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from Greece and Japan.

The request alleged the following changed circumstances: (1) the addition of a third recognized type of EMD (high-drain alkaline EMD), (2) structural changes in battery consumption, and (3) the impending unavailability of supply of regular and high-drain alkaline EMD from U.S. producers and producers in countries not subject to antidumping orders. The information available on the record does not persuade us that a full

investigation is warranted for any of these allegations. In particular:

Addition of a third recognized type of EMD. The requester asserts that there is a recognized new type of EMD high-drain alkaline EMD that has been introduced to the market since the Commission's original investigations. While Eveready provided evidence concerning the existence of new high-drain batteries,⁹ Eveready failed to provide specific evidence supporting its claim of a separate and new product such as chemical specifications, certifications, contracts, pricing, or other information about its own efforts to develop such a new product either internally or with suppliers. Moreover, Chemetals and Kerr-McGee, through sworn affidavits, directly refuted the commercial use of such a new product.

Structural changes in battery consumption.—The requester asserts that there has been a fundamental and permanent shift in battery consumption toward smaller AA and AAA cell batteries with a corresponding increase in demand for standard and "high-drain" alkaline EMD. The record indicates a continuing shift in battery consumption from larger C and D cells (predominantly used in lighting applications) to smaller AA and AAA (predominantly used in higher-drain portable electronic devices). While evidence of a shift in the composition of demand can be a factor supporting institution of a changed circumstances review, the Commission finds that institution is not warranted in this case. Although the record evidence indicates that there has been a shift in the composition of demand, there is no record evidence that this shift has resulted in a shift to a new, high-drain EMD, as alleged by Eveready. Indeed, since Eveready failed to provide specific evidence of a new high-drain EMD, the underlying basis for Eveready's assertion does not exist.

Impending "short-supply" of regular and high-drain alkaline EMD.—The requester asserts that the U.S. industry is operating at full capacity and that the industry faces unsurmountable barriers to expansion that will prohibit it from meeting anticipated future demand for EMD. Additionally, the requester asserts that EMD from all non-subject foreign sources has already been allocated to other purchasers and that Eveready's only available source of "high-drain"

EMD is from Greece. Despite the requester's anecdotal claims, it failed to provide specific evidence regarding the U.S. industry's capacity limitations, Eveready's own production limitations, Eveready's attempts to work with other U.S. producers, or its efforts to qualify or procure EMD from non-subject and subject sources including Greece. Both Chemetals and Kerr-McGee provided substantial evidence to contradict Eveready's claims, most telling being an analysis of prices. It appears that alkaline EMD prices have remained relatively stable in recent years and do not reflect the severe supply limitations that are alleged to be present in the market. Moreover, Chemetals and Kerr-McGee have indicated their willingness and ability to increase supplies of qualified EMD to Eveready through the negotiation and signing of long-term supply contracts.

In light of the above analysis, the Commission determines that institution of a review investigation under section 751(b) of the Act concerning the Commission's affirmative determinations in investigations Nos. 731-TA-406 and 408 (Final): Electrolytic Manganese Dioxide from Greece and Japan, is not warranted.

Issued: August 6, 1998.

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-21618 Filed 8-11-98; 8:45 am]

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation 332-396]

Economic Trends and Barriers to Trade in Products Covered by the WTO Agreement on Agriculture

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Institution of investigation and scheduling of public hearing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 3, 1998.

SUMMARY: Following receipt of a request on July 20, 1998, from the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), the Commission instituted investigation No. 332-396, Economic Trends and Barriers to Trade in Products Covered by the WTO Agreement on Agriculture, under section 332(g) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1332(g)).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Industry-specific information may be obtained from Cathy Jabara (202-205-3309) or Roger Corey (202-205-3327), Office of Industries, U.S. International Trade

Commission self-initiating such a review investigation concerning Japan.

⁸ See, 19 U.S.C. § 1675(b)(2)(A); Heavy Forged Handtools from the People's Republic of China, 62 FR 36305 (July 7, 1997); Certain Cold-Rolled Carbon Steel Flat Products from Germany and the Netherlands, 61 FR 17319 (April 19, 1996); A. Hirsh, Inc. v. United States, 737 F.Supp. 1186 (CIT 1990); Avesta A v. United States, 724 F. Supp. 974 (CIT 1988), *aff'd* 914 F.2d 232 (Fed. Cir. 1990); and Avesta AB v. United States, 689 F. Supp. 1173 (CIT 1988).

In the Uruguay Round Agreements Act of 1994 (the URAA), Congress changed the substantive standard applicable to changed circumstances reviews from whether the domestic industry would be materially injured or threatened with material injury if the order were revoked to whether revocation of the order is likely to lead to the continuation or recurrence of material injury to the domestic industry.

⁹ Based on the record, it appears that gains in performance exhibited by new high-drain batteries are the result of improvements in battery design and not the result of a new type of high-drain EMD. The record reflects that EMD currently employed in high-drain applications is in fact high quality standard alkaline EMD.